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# The DX Bulletin

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AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

ISSUE 262 NOVEMBER 7, 1984

## CQ WW PHONE CONTEST REPORT

Worldwide, low band conditions were disappointing but high frequencies were at least as good as anyone could have expected in this annual event. Multiplier totals were bolstered by a large number of expeditions to the Caribbean and elsewhere. Here is a band-by-band rundown:

160 Meters, after several weeks of sterling conditions, pooped out for the Oct 27/28 Contest weekend. Even working Europe from W1 was difficult. Both nights of the Contest were simply washouts on Top Band, and from the U.S. twenty countries and twelve zones was a good effort.

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## PREFIX PROLIFERATION

FRENCH STATIONS fooled us with their "FE" prefixes...more information elsewhere in this issue. We bet they are not happy about having another character added to their callsigns for the sake of bureaucratic convenience! Some Canadians were using XL and XN prefixes, for reasons which completely escape us; as prefixes count for nothing in this contest, who cares? Then there are the Caribbean operations using things like P44, 6Y3, 4V2, etc. The critical question in using these special prefixes is: do you attract enough attention from prefix hunters to make up for time lost explaining what country you're in? Obviously, some contesters think so, some do not. And finally, the Italians are at it again; this time it was IO9WPO (among others). The number "9" is reserved for Sicily, so IO9WPO counts as a multiplier, right? In this case, yes. But we wonder how many people will miss it.

80 Meters was so-so, probably better than it would have been simply because many stations spent time there instead of on 160. The band from N. America to Europe dropped out unusually early both mornings, leaving only a few Africans and South Americans. 80 has been noisier this October than any year at the same time in memory...no one seems to know why this is. For an all-band, single operator station, fifty countries and twenty zones on 80 was just about tops.

40 Meters suffered, as always, from the "split band" syndrome; it seems the worldwide proliferation of remote VFOs has improved the situation only marginally. If you are operating from, say, central Europe, it is tempting to simply work other Europeans, at two points each, below 7100, listening above 7150 only long enough to work a single "W." Of course, you can work your single VE, and zones 3, 4, and 5, all below 7100. All this was especially frustrating in 1984 because signals from Europe were rock-crushing for several hours both nights. Not to mention that VK9MR, Mellish Reef, frittered away terrific openings to North America both mornings by running JA stations right through the openings!

As always, 20 Meters was the multiplier band for both countries and zones; Sunday afternoon was the traditional madhouse on the band, as stations such as VP8PU showed for their brief contest stints. Experienced contesters know that they can gauge 20 Meters after a night on 40 and a morning on 15...if both those bands are decent, then 20 is extremely predictable, as it was last weekend. If you wanted to run JAs from W1, 20 was your band, as none made it on 15 and only a handful were found on 40. One thing we noticed was there was a lot less contest activity above 14.250, undoubtedly due to U.S. amateurs now being able to use 14.150-14.200. And, happily, 'phone stations outside North America did not seem to have been driven below 14.100, as some have feared.

15 Meters was the star performer, with the big guns having contact and multiplier totals equal to 20 Meters. Although the lack of Asian openings was disappointing it was not unexpected, and the deep European openings helped. We were even treated to a phenomena usually reserved for good sunspot years...Europeans, Africans, and the Pacific coming through simultaneously in mid-afternoon.

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## VK9MR MELLISH REEF

Something we have been opposed to, and have said so publicly, is expeditions to rare DXCC spots for contest weekends. At this juncture it appears that the VK9MR operation may have proved the point. While it has been only two and a half years since the last Mellish operation, VK9MR has moved up to #43 in the latest TDXB Survey, with nearly one quarter of our subscribers saying they needed it last May. As mentioned in our contest report, VK9MR was loud to the States on 40, but they ran JAs below 7100 both mornings. We do not believe they were easy to find on any of the other bands, and several locals who needed Mellish never did find them. Now, word is that they left the island immediately following the Contest. If so, that will mean that a lot of contest big-guns got one more multiplier, while average DXers were left wanting. That's too bad.

The best way to approach 10 Meters is to expect the worst; those who did so this year came away reasonably happy. A good single-band effort on 10 produced about 40-50 countries. A friend who operated from Venezuela reports that he only got about 45 minutes of Europeans; we did hear a couple of stations in S. Florida working Europeans (giving them 5X1 reports) around 1600Z. A reliable indicator of the band's flakiness is listening to a trans-equatorial signal swing from S9 to S0 in seconds...this happened all weekend. There was a very brief opening to Spain and Portugal from W1 Sunday afternoon but you had to be on the band at exactly the right time to catch it.

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The DX Bulletin (ISSN 0279-8077) is published fifty times per year. Subscription rates available upon request. The DX Bulletin is published at Burnap Brook Road, Andover, CT 06232. Second-class postage paid at Andover, CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The DX Bulletin, Andover, CT 06232.



PROPAGATION: Nov 5, Low/Below Normal; Nov 6, Below Normal; Nov 7, Low Normal; Nov 8, Below Normal; Nov 9, 10, Low Normal; Nov 11, High Normal; Nov 12, Low Normal; Nov 13, High Normal; Nov 14-18, Disturbed. TNX N4XX.

Flux (80)	Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Date	Flux (84)	Alpha (84)	K (84)
189	188	202	90	10/25	72	33	4
185	174	200	90	10/26	71	23	5
185	174	191	90	10/27	70	12	2
177	185	184	90	10/28	70	9	0
189	191	177	92	10/29	70	7	2
205	204	169	91	10/30	69	8	2
215	210	168	94	10/31	73	7	1

# WORLDWIDE 80 METER FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS

AREA	CW	PHONE	PHONE DX
Africa (most)	3500-3600	3600-4000	3790-3810
LU, CE	3500-3750	3600-3750	3740-3750
Asia (most)	3500-3600	3600-4000	3790-3810
Australia	3500-3600	3600-3700	3690-3700
Canada	3500-3725	3725-3999	3750-3800
EU (non-USSR)	3500-3600	3600-3800	3790-3800
USSR	3500-3600	3600-3650	3640-3650
India	3650-3700	3650-3700	3675-3700
Japan	3500-3550	3550-3575	3793-3803
New Zealand	3500-3600	3600-4000	3775-3825
S Am. (most)	3500-3600	3600-3999	3775-3800
USA	3500-4000	3750-4000	3750-3800+

TNX So. Cal DX Club Bulletin and others

AS MENTIONED in the Contest Report, French amateurs are getting a new callsign structure. For those amateurs in France itself, their callsign starts with F, followed by A, B, C, D, or E, indicating the class of license, "E" being the highest. That's followed by a number (0-9), and the suffix of two or three letters. Stations on Corsica now have "TK" calls because "FC" is now a prefix for France; Antarctic stations will have FT calls, since "FB" is also now allocated for French stations. No other changes.

...According to the W5YI REPORT, FCC has issued an NPRM (PR Docket 84-960) regarding opening of the new HF bands at 18 and 24 MHz, plus revising US amateurs' existing privileges on the 10 MHz band. Effective immediately, there is no longer a window at 10.109-10.115 MHz, and US amateurs may now use CW and RTTY, 200 watt PEP output, in the entire range 10.100-10.150. On the "17 Meter Band" (18.068-18.168 MHz), FCC says it will be at least 1989 before amateurs can use it, due fixed services only slowly phasing out their use of the frequencies. As for "12 Meters," it will also be 1989 at least before it is opened up to us...ARRL has proposed a band plan for 100-KHz band allowing for just about all modes, including SSB and FM.

...Regarding comments about FCC de-regulation and amateur examinations (Issue 260), a different view is that the Volunteer Examiner program might actually strengthen the testing, as the exam will be made of questions drawn at random from a large pool. We think this is a valid point. As for the CW test, we suppose it will be discretionary on the part of the examiner as to how tough to make it.

...Bulletin of the Western Washington DX Club says that a number of DX operators, including the Y11BGD crew and several in the USSR, have been sent gifts of baseball caps with their name and callsign on them. If you would like to participate in this program, send \$7 to Joanie Branson, KA6V, 93787 Dorsey Lane, Junction City OR 97448. Specify the name, callsign, and address of the DX station you want to receive the cap.

...JH1KRC, editor of the DX Family Foundation Newsletter, always seems to have something interesting to say. He recently reported on a visit to their club meeting by Doug Grant, K1DG, an active tester. The JAs say slides of some of the big East Coast contest stations and the N2AA film "To Win the World." Mike drew very accurately the comparison between the N2AA station philosophy and that of

the late Jim Lawson, W2PV. As for the lack of such "giant" stations in Japan, Mike says "Generally speaking, Japan's floods in the fields like electronics and other industries can be large in a way, but it seems not to be very deep in the bottom. 'Thinness' or 'lightness' may be the fundamental (of) Japanese culture, both past and present, that can change or develop in a large velocity. Give us good influences!"

...SOME FINAL NOTES. OH2JL now anticipates arriving Somalia Nov 18, and will not know about licensing until he is in the country; 40 and 80 Meters will not be possible from his proposed operating site. 5U7LD documentation papers have reportedly arrived in Newington but, according to the DX NewsSheet, they likely will not count, as they are signed by officials in Nigeria, not Niger. A team of top-notch operators has signed on for the BV0BG operation for the CQ.

## FIVE YEARS AGO IN THE DX BULLETIN

November 7, 1979: In our twelfth issue, attention was again centered on the WARC, as HF negotiating sessions got into full swing. Countries with large amateur populations were supporting the proposed new amateur bands at 10, 18, and 24 MHz; those countries opposed sought to protect fixed services they had operating in those ranges. Some less-developed countries used their fixed services in lieu of telephones!

The biggest news was in contesting...certain ARRL staff members rammed through a change in the ARRL International DX Competition, over objections by the Contest Advisory Committee and the Headquarters Awards Committee. One member and two alternate members of the Awards Committee (headquarters staff members) resigned over the changes, which were finalized while General Manager Baldwin and Assistant G.M. Sumner were both at the WARC in Geneva. The 1980 ARRL International DX Contest (they even changed the name!) was to be a carbon copy of the CQ Worldwide Contest; it was a mistake, and we said so immediately. The changes lasted one year, after which the Contest reverted to its traditional format.

Issue 12 was the first one we printed and folded ourselves, on equipment we had just bought. Although we continued doing this work the following three years, it was always a losing proposition. We still have a sore knuckle from the time we punched the folding machine.



3D6/	CE0ZIG 21269 00W 28	HC5CN 7016 11E 27	V2A/
N4TW 21306 13W 27	CE8ABF 1826 03E 27	HC5NAI 7006 00E 27	KA2DIV 7017 23E 21
3D6AK 21033 17E 21	CN2AQ 3504 02M 26	HH2VP 14025 20E 21	V3ZZ 28602 21W 28
3D6AL 21223 15C 21	CO2BH 14015 21E 26	HH2VP 21026 22W 25	VK6IR 3796 22E 24
6DX 21235 17W 28	CO2HS 7021 07W 25	HH2VP 7008 11E 21	VK6RZ 7003 22E 22
3X4EX 14219 23C 20	CO2KG 7013 02C 20	HI7JM 21032 17E 21	VK9MR 14177 04W 27
3X4EX 21335 18C 24	CO2QR 3515 11C 23	HI7JM 7015 01E 25	VK9MR 14195 13W 26
3X4EX 21335 17C 22	CO7FM 21026 22W 25	HKOBKX 14018 13C 24	VK9MR 21280 01W 27
3X4EX 21336 17C 18	CP6IB 7010 09C 26	HKOBKX 14020 12E 18	VK9ND 14178 06W 26
4K1CEY 14031 23E 22	CP8AK 21039 21E 21	HKOBKX 14010 23E 25	VK9ZA 1830 11E 27
4K1GAG 14187 01M 21	CT2AK 14028 12E 23	HKOHEU 14155 13C 20	VK9ZA 3797 12C 22
4K1GAG 21244 20C 22	CT2AK 3508 02M 24	HKOHEU 1830 03E 28	VK9ZA 7173 12C 22
4K1GAG 7002 02M 26	CT2EC 7006 00M 22	HKOHEU 28600 21W 27	VP2EC 1817 00E 28
4U1VIC 14027 12E 18	CT3/	HP1XKR 7007 01E 25	VP2MLA 21025 23W 25
4U39UN 3515 10E 24	W6TEX 3508 23E 25	HP1XZB 14031 00E 25	VP2MO 1839 01E 27
4X4YM 7001 00E 27	CX4CL 21050 16E 21	ISQQDV 7008 00E 27	VP2MO 21221 15W 21
5H3BH 21286 18W 28	D44BC 1835 02E 27	J28DN 21249 17W 28	VP9AD 1829 00E 27
5N24AMA 14025 22E 26	D44BC 21020 13E 25	J28EF 14025 21E 26	VQ9AC 7007 00E 21
5N24BHF 21234 17C 23	(AND HE WAS EVERY-	J28EF 21030 13E 25	VQ9DX 21335 17W 21
5N6/	WHERE IN THE CQ	J37AH 21335 18C 21	VQ9DX 21335 18C 21
KC7UU 21027 16E 21	PHONE CONTEST)	J88AQ 21300 19C 24	VQ9JR 7007 13M 21
5N6/	D68WB 21231 20E 14	JY5CL 3795 22E 21	VS6/
KC7UU 3509 03M 22	DU2/	JY8YD 14025 17E 20	K9VV 7004 12E 21
5N6/	N5TP 7005 11E 23	JY9TS 21305 13E 25	VS6DO 7003 11C 20
KC7UU 7006 01M 22	DU2/	KHOAC 14225 00E 15	XE2AET 3782 03E 26
5N6/	N5TP 7007 10E 22	KHOAC 14287 03W 21	XU1SS 14245 12E 14
KC7UU 14026 23E 21	DU9/	KH6AFS 21029 22E 20	(NO LIST)
5T5RY 7004 00E 25	K4YT 14155 13E 28	KH6CC 1831 05E 27	YB0ARA 7004 123C 20
5W1EJ 28537 22W 28	EA8AAU 1855 04E 27	KL7GKY 1835 11E 28	YB5ASO 7008 10E 22
5Z4DE 21317 18W 28	EA8ABQ 14035 21E 22	P29JS 21261 01W 27	YJ8RG 28544 23W 27
6W1KY 21240 15C 21	EA8ACL 7004 01E 25	P44A 1820 07E 28	YN1CC 21006 21E 21
6W2EX 7012 00E 21	EA8AZT 21022 16E 21	PY1MAG 3505 22E 25	YN1CC 21014 22W 25
6Y5M 1835 04E 27	EA8AZT 7001 22E 26	PZ1DT 14011 23E 23	YN1CC 28020 21E 22
6Y5SG 14017 20E 21	EA8QJ 7002 22E 24	PZ1DV 14008 22E 25	YU2IF 1830 04E 27
7P8CI 21285 18E 24	EL1F 21352 17W 27	PZ1DV 14007 23W 24	ZD7CW 14185 01E 19
7P8PW 21264 19W 28	EL2EN 14198 21E 20	T2ADE 28555 00W 27	ZD7CW 21335 18C 21
8BPW 28522 20W 28	EL8MG 21301 17C 24	T30AC 28537 22W 27	ZD9CS 21335 18C 21
8X2LS 3800 01E 26	F6BKI 1850 06E 27	T32AB 28495 22W 27	ZF1SB 7005 11E 27
8P6AE 14021 22E 20	FG4DE 7007 00E 25	T32AW 14205 03W 28	ZK1XC 1832 10E 27
8P6ON 21270 17C 25	FG4DI 7011 11E 27	T32AW 21290 00W 28	ZK1XD 14006 18W 26
9H1ED 3795 21E 24	PH8CB 21290 19C 22	TF3SA 14008 22E 25	ZK1XD 14024 02W 26
9H3ZJ 14065 14E 20	FK8CE 28564 23W 27	TG9FC 7016 01E 23	ZK1XD 7004 10E 25
9J2BO 21004 15C 21	FM5DK 21022 19C 25	TR8DM 21011 19E 22	ZK1XD 7006 10E 30
9J2BO 21010 17E 21	FM7CT 21022 16E 20	TR8DM 21027 15C 21	ZK2IK 7005 10C 25
9J2BO 21250 17C 22	FM7WD 7012 01E 25	TR8JLD 21028 16E 21	ZL0AIX 3797 09C 21
9J2BO 21355 18C 21	FO0PR 28528 22W 27	TR8JLD 21398 17W 28	ZL2BT 1831 07E 28
9Y4VU 21023 22E 20	FO8GW 28511 18W 27	TR8JLD 28603 21W 21	ZL2FS 3790 11E 21
A22ME 21268 15W 27	FO8PR 1830 06E 27	TR8SDP 21011 18C 25	ZL3AG 1831 07E 28
A22ME 21350 16W 28	FR0FLO 21323 16W 27	TT8CW 14004 21E 21	ZP5HEB 14219 01W 25
A22ME 7002 22E 23	FR0FLO 21306 19W 28	TT8CW 21005 15E 25	ZS3JAM 14204 22E 20
A22ME 7007 00E 22	FW0BX 1837 10E 27	TT8CW 21335 16W 21	ZS3KC 21291 15C 21
A22TE 21335 17C 25	FY7CG 21030 15E 20	TT8CW 21336 17C 18	ZS3TL 21258 18E 26
A4XYH 21235 15E 25	GD4RAG 14027 13E 21	TU2IN 21320 17W 27	ZS3TL 21355 18C 21
AH8A 14198 02W 28	GI3OQR 1822 04E 26	UD6GF 14029 12E 27	ZS5WT 7005 02E 24
AH8A 21310 01W 27	GU3HFN 14021 18W 26	UL7CAD 7012 11C 19	
BV2B 14025 00C 21	GU4YZV 14025 12E 24	UM8MBA 7004 00E 25	
CE0AE 28496 19W 27	H44IA 7004 11E 27		

DX CALL	QSL TO	OX3LV	W3HNK
A22WZ	OE3NH	TG9VT	W3HNK
CE0GBL	WB3CQN	TR8DR	W2PD
CN8ES	WA3NCP	T32AF	KH6UR
CO2HQ	XE1XF	UD6BD	W7PHO
CT2CB	N2DUR	VE3LKV/HI8	VE3LKV
C21FS	K6EDV	VP8AOB	K0JW
C30LAZ	EA3DDP	VP8AXJ	G4NFT
FB8WJ	W4FRU	XU1SS	JA1HQG
FM7WD	W3HNK	ZL7OY	VK3DWJ
FO0GAD	KB2HZ	ZP5XDW	N4DW
HR5SB/2	WB0MZB	ZS3GB	N0AFW
I0JU/IS0	I0JU	3D6AK	G3WPF
JW0EQ	LA5NM	4K1GAG	UQ2OC
J6LKZ	KE1A	5W1DZ	WB2LVB
K6XN/8P6	K6XN	6W1HF	W0ZUZ
LZ40KTS	LZ2KTS	6W2EX	F6HRI
OX3KP	OZ1HDF		



# CALENDAR

DEADLINE NOV 9 for comments in PRB-1; ISSUE 261

S SUDAN ST2SA reported in Europe, 20 SSB  
 FERN DE NOR. PS7AAW/PYO on 14.236 and 21.335 Nets  
 CHINA BYs 1PK, 5RA, 4AA active, 20-80M  
 SAO TOME WB7RFA trying; nothing heard  
 CAMBODIA XU1SS 20 SSB Only, Tues, Thurs, Sundays,  
 with VS6CT or DU9RG, 1200Z

CAPE VERDE D44BC very active, including 160; op may be  
 DJ6QT?

IRAQ Y10BIF NOW to Nov 20 for Baghdad Intl Fair  
 CANADA Using XL/XN prefixes NOW to Dec 13  
 KERGUELEN FT8XA rumored by ex-FB8WK Nov 18-21  
 ANTIGUA KA2DIV/V2A continues, mostly CW  
 WILLIS VK9ZA there now, likes 80/40 SSB, 08-1200Z  
 GUINEA 3X4EX (LA2EX) very active again, on 160, too  
 MACQUARIE VK0GC there now; need reports  
 BANGLADESH Recent/upcoming JA activity; I259  
 U.A.E. G3LCS there soon; I259  
 S SUDAN TL8GE/STO one week a month; 14.236 net  
 GUINEA-BISSAU J5WAD 20 SSB ONLY now; I260  
 MALAGASY 5R8AL on again, likes 21.335/1630Z  
 CHAD TT8CW very active now, most bands  
 160 METERS DXCC Endorsable starting Nov 1  
 DINNER NEW ENGLAND DXCC Nov 10, Boston; I259  
 CONTEST ARRL Sweepstakes Phone Nov 17/18  
 S SANDWICH Nov 15/17 by VP8ASR group; I259  
 SOMALIA OH2JL there starting Nov 18; I262  
 SAMOA 5W1EZ by JE1JKL Nov 20/21; I261  
 AM SAMOA NH6J/NH8 Nov 22-25 for CQ CW; I261  
 TAIWAN U.S. group Nov 20-29; I260

# CONTRIBUTORS

KA1BU, K4PYT, W7HRD, KA1SR, AB8K,  
 KH6BZF, KE1K, JH1KRC, W4VQ, F6AJ/  
 K8EM, N1GL, K8GG, W4BAA, W1AX, KV8C  
 K0CVD, K6IR, K4BAI, WB8ZRL, W7YF,  
 WD5AAM, KA3R, N4NO, K1MEM, KA1XN,  
 K6HHD.

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 Tuesday, if possible. Phone 203-742-7124  
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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIR-  
 CULATION (required by U.S. Postal Service 39 U.S.C. 3685).  
 (1A) Title of Publication: The DX Bulletin. (1B) Publication  
 No.: 584290. (2) Date of Filing: Oct. 30, 1984. (3) Frequency  
 of Issue: weekly. (3A) No. of Issues Published Annually: 50.  
 (3B) Annual Subscription Price: \$28. (4) Complete Mailing  
 Address of Known Office of Publication: Burnap Brook  
 Road, Andover, Tolland County, Connecticut 06232. (5)  
 Complete Mailing Address of the Headquarters of General  
 Business Offices of the Publisher: same. (6) Full Names and  
 Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor, and Manag-  
 ing Editor: James D. Cain, Burnap Brook Road, Andover,  
 Connecticut 06232. (7) Owner: James D. Cain, same. (8)  
 Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders  
 Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of  
 Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: none. (9) n/a. (10)  
 Extent and Nature of Circulation: Average No. Copies Each  
 Issue During Preceding 12 Months: Total No. Copies 650,  
 Mail Subscriptions 600, Total Distribution 600, Copies Not  
 Distributed 50, Total 650. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue  
 Published Nearest to Filing Date, Total No. Copies 450, Mail  
 Subscriptions 430, Total Distribution 430, Copies Not Distri-  
 buted 20, Total 450. (11) I certify that the statements made  
 by me above are correct and complete: /s/ James D. Cain,  
 Publisher.

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 First Class Mail and overseas Airmail.

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